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# **SYRIAN ARAB REPUBLIC**

## **MAP COVERAGE REPORT (U)**

### **A REFERENCE GUIDE**

119

**Secret**

**RSD-022/84  
MCR-002/84  
JUNE 1984  
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## **SYRIAN ARAB REPUBLIC MAP COVERAGE REPORT JUNE 1984 (U)**

### **INTRODUCTION**

This guide lists the best and most current map coverage for the Syrian Arab Republic. The maps vary in their content, scales, sizes, dates of production, and publishers. They were selected for inclusion in this document because of their possible usefulness in the imagery exploitation process. (U)

Most of the maps listed in this publication were produced by the Defense Mapping Agency (DMA) or the Central Intelligence Agency (CIA) and are available for retention. To order them, identify their series and sheet designation. Some maps are only available on a loan basis; however, facsimile or photographic copies can be obtained. When ordering loan maps, give the complete call number. (U)

The scale of a map explains the relationship between a distance on the map and the corresponding distance on the ground. Scale is usually expressed as a ratio, and an individual's choice of a map scale depends on how he intends to use the map. Scale determines the amount of detail shown. A large-scale map shows much detail but little area, while a small-scale map shows little detail but covers a large land area:

Large-scale maps: 1:10,000 - 1:25,000

Medium-scale maps: 1:50,000 - 1:250,000

Small-scale maps: 1:500,000 - 1:22,000,000

The terms large scale and small scale are not absolute. Thus, no precise definitions of the boundaries between them exist. Maps of continental areas and the world are all small scale; however, town plans are large scale. (C)

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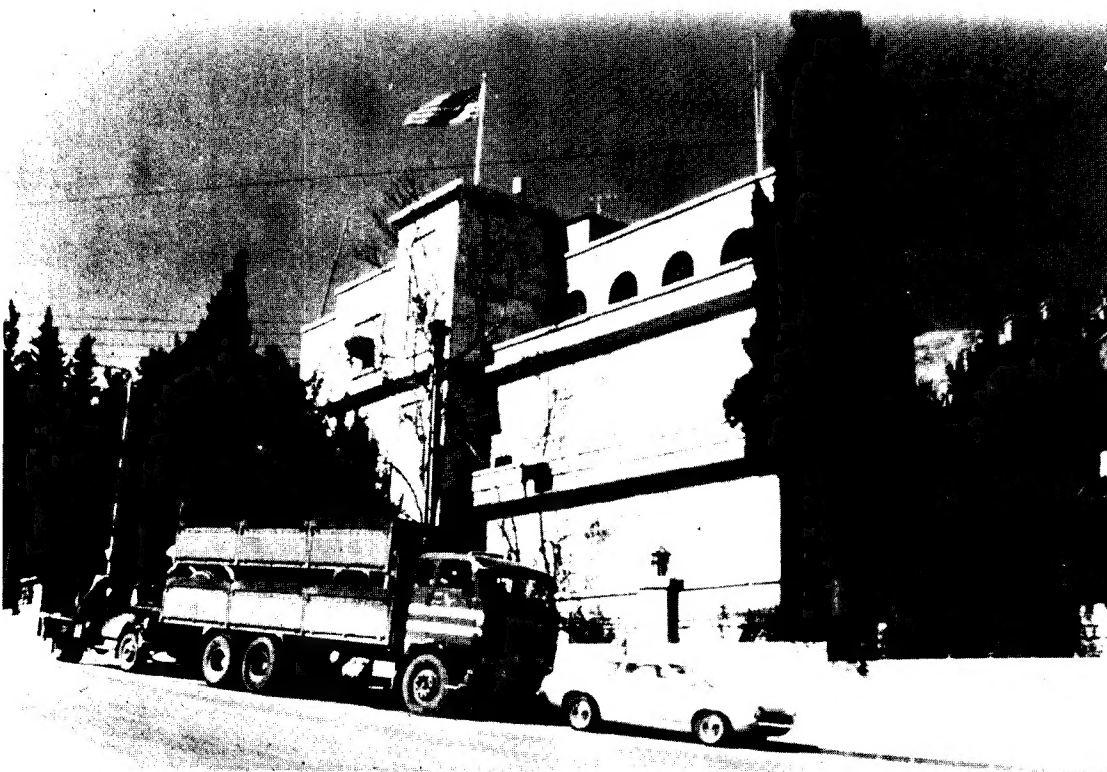
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**NORTHWEST DAMASCUS, MAY 1975**



**UNITED STATES EMBASSY LOCATED ON SHARIA AL-MANSOUR, OCTOBER, 1978**

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**BACKGROUND INFORMATION****General**

Situated on the eastern shore of the Mediterranean Sea, Syria is bounded on the north by Turkey, on the southeast by Iraq, on the south by Jordan, and on the southwest by Lebanon and Israel. (U)

Syria consists of four major geographic regions: the narrow, fertile coastal plain; the mountain regions including the Jabal an Nusayriyah, the Anti-Lebanon, and the Jabal ad Duruz; the central desert region; and the Al Jazirah desert country in eastern Syria. (U)

Slightly larger than North Dakota, the land area is approximately 186,480 sq km (including 1,295 sq km of Israeli-occupied territory). (1983) (U)

**Capital**

In 1980, Damascus (Dimashq) had an estimated population of two million. A photograph of northwest Damascus appears in the frontpiece. (U)

**People**

The population of Syria is 9.74 million people and is roughly half urban and half rural. The ethnic breakdown is approximately 90 percent Arab and 10 percent Kurds, Armenians, and others. Nearly 90 percent of the people follow Islam (74 percent Sunni Muslim, 16 percent Alawite Druze and other Muslim sects), and 10 percent are Christian. Syria's official language is Arabic, although French and English are widely understood. A fairly large Armenian population speaks Armenian and Turkish. (1983) (U)

**Economy**

<b>GDP</b>	\$16.2 billion (1981); \$1,735 per capita
<b>Agriculture</b>	Cotton, wheat, barley, and tobacco; sheep and goat raising
<b>Major Industries</b>	Textiles, food processing, beverages, tobacco, petroleum: 166,000 barrels per day production (1980); 220,000 barrels per day refining capacity
<b>Electric Power</b>	2,278,500 kW capacity (1982)
<b>Trade</b>	Exports (Italy, Romania, US, USSR)—\$2.1 billion (f.o.b. 1981): petroleum, textiles, tobacco, fruits and vegetables, cotton  Imports (Iraq, FRG, Italy, France)— \$4.8 billion (f.o.b. 1981): machinery and metal products, textiles, fuels, foodstuffs.

*The table is UNCLASSIFIED.*

**Communications**

<b>Railroads</b>	1,543 km total: 1,281 km standard gauge; 262 km narrow gauge (1.050m) (1983)
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<b>Highways</b>	16,939 km total: 12,051 km paved; 2,625 km gravel or crushed stone; 2,263 km improved earth (1983)
<b>Pipeline</b>	1,304 km crude oil; 515 km refined products (1983)
<b>Major Ports</b>	Tartus, Latakia, Baniyas
<b>Airfields</b>	55 total: 51 usable; 24 with permanent-surface runways (1983)
<b>Telecommunications</b>	236,000 telephones (2.7 per 100 population); 9 AM and 27 TV stations; 1 Indian Ocean satellite station (1983)

The table is UNCLASSIFIED.

### GAZETTEER OF SELECTED PLACENAMES

Common Usage	BGN Approved*	Geographic Coordinates	
Aleppo	Halab	36°12'N	37°10'E
Al-Rakkah	Ar Raqqah	35°57'N	39°01'E
Al-Sweida	As Suwaydā'	32°42'N	36°34'E
Al-Zabadani	Az Zabadānī	33°43'N	36°05'E
Banias	Bāniyās	35°11'N	35°57'E
Blūdān	Blūdān	33°44'N	36°08'E
Busra	Busra'ash Shām	32°31'N	36°29'E
Damascus	Dimashq	33°30'N	36°18'E
Dara'a	Dar'ā	32°37'N	36°06'E
Deir El-Zor	Dayr az Zawr	35°20'N	40°09'E
Hama	Hamāh	35°08'N	36°45'E
Hasaken	Al Hasakah	36°29'N	40°45'E
Homs	Hims	34°44'N	36°43'E
Idleb	Idlib	35°55'N	36°38'E
Kamishly	Al Qāmishlī	37°02'N	41°14'E
Kasab	Kassab	35°56'N	35°59'E
Krak des Chevaliers	Qal'at al Hisn	34°46'N	36°19'E
Latakia	Al Lādhīqiyah	35°31'N	35°47'E
Ma'alula	Ma'lūlā	35°50'N	36°33'N
Palmyra	Tadmur	34°33'N	38°17'N
Quneitra	Al Qunaytirah	33°07'N	35°49'E
Saidnāyā	Saydnāyā	33°42'N	36°22'E
Shahbā	Shahbā	32°51'N	36°38'E
Tartous	Tartūs	34°53'N	35°53'E

\* US Board on Geographic Names

The table is UNCLASSIFIED.

### MAP LISTING

#### Base Maps

Base maps are basic outline maps that show major cities, transportation routes, and administrative divisions. They can be valuable tools in preparing briefings and in illustrating reports. (U)

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CIA produces the following base maps of Syria for retention:

Accession No	Date	Scale	Size	Remarks
504714	1981	1:4,500,000	8 x 10	
504715 (Terrain)	1981	1:4,500,000	8 x 10	
503966 (Terrain)	1979	1:500,000	17 x 33	
503967	1979	1:500,000	17 x 20	
504652 (Terrain)	1980	1:405,000	8 x 10	Golan Heights
504651	1980	1:400,000	8 x 10	Golan Heights

*The table is UNCLASSIFIED.*

## Briefing Maps

Maps provide a visual description and may show significant details; however, some maps are more suitable than others for briefing purposes. These maps were selected for this category because of their distinctive presentation of administrative divisions, major transportation routes, and major cities. (U)

Title and Accession No	Date	Scale	Size	Remarks
Lebanon & Syria 505911	1983	1:250,000	29 x 41	Cease-fire Lines & Israeli Settlements
Lebanon & Syria 505328	1982	1:250,000	22 x 35	Landsat Photography
South Lebanon & Border Area 504999	1981	1:150,000	16 x 26	Cease-fire Lines & Israeli Settlements
Golan Heights 502846	1975	1:150,000	11 x 26	Cease-fire Lines & Israeli Settlements
Golan Heights 502260	1974	1:150,000	25 x 31	Cease-fire Lines & Israeli Settlements
Golan Heights & Vicinity 503158	1976	1:150,000	25 x 31	Armistice Lines & Israeli Settlements

*The table is UNCLASSIFIED.*

## Topographic Maps

Topographic maps portray the shape and elevation of terrain, usually by contours or color shading. These maps also show major cities, transportation routes, and administrative divisions. (U)

Complete topographic map coverage of Syria is available at various scales. (U)

### 1:250,000 Scale Maps

DMA produces three versions of the Joint Operations Graphic (JOG) Series 1501 of Syria (Figure 1). Each version is identified in the lower margin of the map as Joint Operations Graphic (Air), Joint Operations Graphic (Ground), or Joint Operations Graphic (Radar). (S)

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The JOG-Air series contains detailed information on air-related facilities such as runway lengths and patterns, radio facilities, and obstructions. Terrain elevation in each 15 minute quadrangle is identified by large open-faced figures shown in the legend. Elevations and contours are given in feet. (U)

The JOG-Ground series is prepared for use by ground units, and only stable or permanent air facilities are identified. Elevations and contours are located in the same positions as on the air version but are given in meters. (U)

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### JOINT OPERATIONS GRAPHIC SERIES 1501

Sheet Number	JOG-Ground	JOG-Air
NI 36-4	1966	1977
NI 36-8	1983	1983
NI 36-12	1976	1980
NI 36-16	1980	1977
NI 37-1	1973	1977
NI 37-2	1972	1975
NI 37-3	1972	1977
NI 37-4	1973	1983
NI 37-5	1975	1976
NI 37-6	1972	1977
NI 37-7	1972	1979
NI 37-8	1973	1974
NI 37-9	1980	1975
NI 37-10	1972	1977
NI 37-11	1966	1967
NI 37-13	1970	1976
NI 37-14	1970	1983
NJ 37-12	—	—
NJ 37-13	1966	1967
NJ 37-14	1966	1967
NJ 37-15	1967	1967
NJ 37-16	1981	1981
NJ 38-9	—	—
NJ 38-13	1975	1980

*The table is SECRET.*

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#### 1:200,000 Scale Maps

Complete map coverage of Syria is available in two separate editions. The latest edition is in Arabic and has geographic coordinates; it was produced by the Syria Military Survey Department in the mid-seventies. The older maps were co-produced by the French in the mid-fifties and should be a good source for place names. The call number for both editions is H213-30 205742. (State edition preference.) (U)

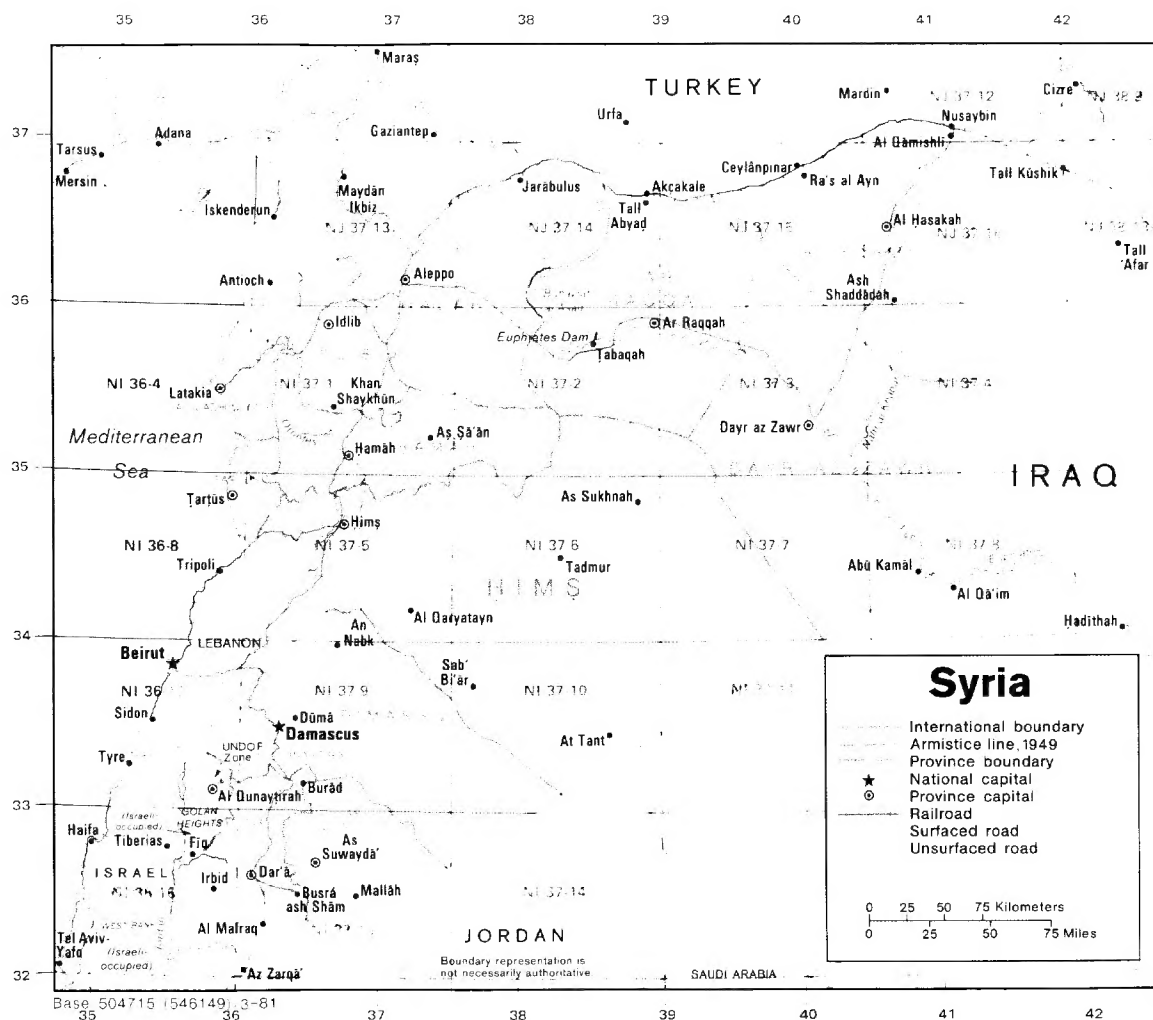


FIGURE 1. INDEX TO 1:250,000 SCALE MAPS

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**1:25,000 Scale Maps**

A British military survey series produced in 1960 provides limited map coverage at this scale. A total of 18 sheets that cover the area to the northeast and to the south of Damascus can be loaned. The call number for the series is H213-30 168028. (U)

**Aeronautical Maps**

These maps have special overprints and intelligence used to monitor international air/ground tactical operations and for operational planning and training. They are essential to the navigation of high-performance weapon systems. Their other uses include visual and radio navigation, monitoring radio emissions and other electronic devices, plotting, mission planning, and intelligence briefings. (U)

<b>DMA Series</b>	<b>Sheet Number</b>	<b>Scale</b>	<b>Date</b>	<b>Class</b>
Global Navigation Chart (GNC)	4	1:5,000,000	1980	U
Jet Navigation Chart (JNC)	22	1:2,000,000	1974	U
Operational Navigation Chart (ONC)	G-4	1:1,000,000	1982	U
Tactical Pilotage Chart (IPC)	G-4A	1:500,000	1984	U
	G-4B	1:500,000	1982	U
	G-4C	1:500,000	1979	U
	G-4D	1:500,000	1981	U
Air Target Chart (ATC)	340-16	1:200,000	1965	S/NF
	340-17	1:200,000	1976	S
	340-18	1:200,000	1975	S/NF
	340-21	1:200,000	1961	S/NF
	340-22	1:200,000	1976	S
	340-23	1:200,000	1976	S
	341-19	1:200,000	1975	S/NF
	341-20	1:200,000	1962	S/NF
	341-24	1:200,000	1981	S
	426-14	1:200,000	1962	S/NF
	426-19	1:200,000	1961	S/NF

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**Thematic Maps**

Thematic maps have a special purpose and often emphasize a single topic usually identified by the title.  
(U)

<b>Title</b>	<b>Call Number</b>	<b>Scale</b>	<b>Date</b>	<b>Class</b>
<b>Administrative</b>				
Syria: Districts and Distribution of Population	H213-23.3 215728	1:4,250,000	1971	U
Boundary: Syria and Lebanon	H213-23.5 284943	1:1,000,000	1982	U
Syria: Administrative Map	H213-23.3 210290	NS*	1968	U
<b>Airfields</b>				
Syria: Major Airfields	H213-2 276514	1:2,950,000	1980	S
<b>Climate</b>				
Rainfall, Hydrological Basin and Irrigation Projects	H213-9 272479	1:2,250,000	1978	UO
Climatic Atlas of Syria	H213-9 PO265734	NS	1977	U
<b>Military</b>				
Syria: Operational SAM Sites	H213-16 C627212	1:4,500,000	1980	S/NF
Golan Heights: Cross-Country Movement Conditions	H213-16 C504516	1:3,350,000	1980	C
Syria: Cross-Country Movement Conditions	H213-22 280424	1:2,500,000	1981	S
Syria: Military Geographic Regions	H213-16 C21705	1:1,350,000	1960	C
Syria: Suitability for Airfields	H213-22 C20335	1:1,100,000	1959	C
Syria: Suitability for Roads	H213-22 C20336	1:1,100,000	1959	C
Syria: Suitability for Underground Installations	H213-22 C20337	1:1,100,000	1959	C
Syria: Central Centers and Radar Facilities	H213-16 252938	NS	1976	S/NF
<b>Petroleum Resources</b>				
Syria: Oilfields and Pipelines	H213-20 252960	1:4,500,000	1976	U
Syria: POL	H213-20 279786	1:4,250,000	1981	S/NF

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**Thematic Maps**

<b>Title</b>	<b>Call Number</b>	<b>Scale</b>	<b>Date</b>	<b>Class</b>
<b>Physical</b>				
Syria: Water Resources: Surface & Ground Water	H213-34 280414 & 15	1:4,250,000	1981	S
Syria: Drainage Characteristics	H213-22 C21644	1:1,750,000	1959	C
Syria: Soils	H213-22 C20330	1:1,080,000	1959	C
Geological Maps of Syria (foreign series)	H213-22.3 225267	1:200,000	1964	U
<b>Power</b>				
Syria: Electric Power	H213-24 279787	1:4,250,000	1981	S/NF
<b>Railroads</b>				
Syria: Transportation Network— Rail & Road	H213-25 271716	1:4,500,000	1979	S
Syria: Rail Development	H213-25 255043	1:3,000,000	1977	C
Syria: Railway Network	H213-25 283628	1:750,000	no date	C
<b>Roads</b>				
Syria: Transportation Network— Rail & Road	H213-28 271716	1:4,500,000	1979	S
Syria: Roads	H213-28 274604	1:3,750,000	1980	C
Syria: Roads	H213-28 284943	1:1,000,000	1982	U
<b>Telecommunications</b>				
Syria: Telecommunications	H213-29 280408	1:4,250,000	1981	S

\*No Scale

*The table is SECRET NOFORN.***Hydrographic Charts**

The Defense Mapping Agency Hydrographic/Topographic Center (DMAHTC) has produced hydrographic charts of Syrian coastal waters at various scales and dates. These charts show soundings in fathoms and feet. They also show major obstructions to navigation and cover ports in detail. Also available are the DMAHTC *Sailing Directions*, detailed navigational information for Syria and the eastern Mediterranean Sea. (U)

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**TABLE OF DISTANCES**  
(in kilometers)

	Halab	Bludan	Buwaish Sham	Dimashq	Dar'a	Dayr az Zawr	Hamah	Al Hasakeh	Hims	Al Qamishi	Kessab	Qal'at al Hsen	Al Qunayirah	Al Ladhqiyyah	Al Idlib	Tadmur	Ar Raqqah	Suwayda	Shubha	Ar Zakariyah
Dimashq	335	52	143	—	101	672	209	866	162	950	407	223	67	347	56	319	547	30	89	49
Hims	193	214	305	162	251	310	47	601		88	243	61	229	166	12	163	363	197	271	211
Hamah	146	261	352	209	310	463	—	640	47	741	204	108	276	145	167	212	337	239	297	257
Halab		407	497	155	456	317	146	414	193	553	245	254	422	186	313	360	197	490	444	404
Idlib	59	372	463	317	416	376	107	553	154	654	186	215	384	127	274	287	251	346	409	363
Al Ladhqiyyah	186	400	491	347	444	303	145	679	186	780	37	209	413		146	351	377	378	437	401
Tartus	276	313	400	257	359	592	143	770	96	884	149	60	324	90	216	261	467	288	346	306
Al Qunayirah	411	114	118	67	76	39	77	47	224	1017	473	250		415	133	386	614	9	146	106
Dar'a	456	253	42	101		773	310	950	263	1051	508	324	76	449	157	420	647	131	76	250
As Suwayda	461	137	35	106	67	77	313	433	267	1056	513	329	97	454	162	423	632	136	1	173
Al Hasakeh	494	917	1009	866	950	177	640	—	687	84	756	748	916	679	807	852	315	879	939	915
Dayr az Zawr	317	740	817	672	773	—	463	177	31	261	379	71	733	513	600	673	13	702	61	737

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**EMBASSY MAPS**

Since the takeover of the American Embassy in Iran, the NPIC Map Library has maintained a file of selected American Embassies to supply associated embassy map requests in support of imagery exploitation requirements. These plans show compound layouts, surrounding streets, and building floor plans. The library has a map of the US Embassy in Damascus. A photograph of the American Embassy appears in the frontpiece. (S)

**POST REPORTS**

The NPIC Map Library maintains a file of the latest State Department Post Reports on American Embassies and other diplomatic missions worldwide. The most recent Post Report available on Syria is dated 1982. (U)

**OUTLOOK: MAP PRODUCTION**

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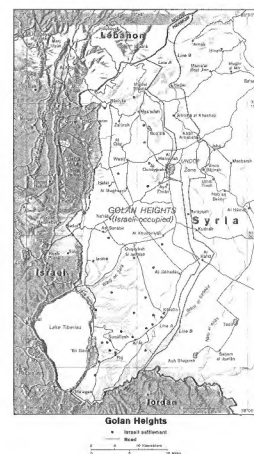
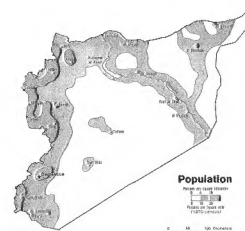
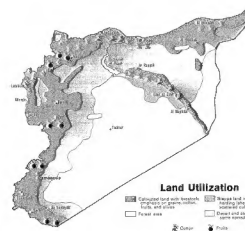
DMA is currently revising two Joint Operations Graphic Series 1501 map sheets of the Syrian/Iranian border area. JOG map sheets NI37-4 and NI37-7, both air and ground versions, are to be published soon. (S)

DMA's new JOG-Combined series, which was to replace the JOG-Ground and JOG-Air series, has been cancelled. The ground and air series will be reinstated for those areas. (U)

The NPIC Map Library is continuing to work closely with the Cartography Center, Map Services Division, DMA, and other map producing agencies to obtain the most current maps available in support of analysts' requirements. (C)

**PUBLICATIONS****RELATED DOCUMENTS**

Defense Mapping Agency. *Gazetteer of Syria*, Sep 83 (U)  
Central Intelligence Agency. *The World Factbook*, Jan 83 (U)  
Shaban, Fuad. H213-10 PO269886, *Syria, A Tourist Guide*, 1976 (U)  
U.S. State Department. *Syria: Post Report*, Aug 82 (U)  
Guine, Antoine. H213-10 PO246912, *Syria Guidebook*, 1975 (U)



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